

REMARKS

In the office action, claims 5 and 7 were objected to, claims 1, 7 - 9 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,249,367 (to Hirose), claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hirose in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,264,809 (to Fearnside); and claims 2 - 6 and 13 - 17 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Responsive to the office action, claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 2, claim 12 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 13, and allowable claim 18 is amended to include the limitations of claim 1 from which had depended. New claim 19 - 22 are similar to claims 2 - 4 and 10 but depend from independent claim 18. Claims 2 and 13 are canceled.

Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 1, 3 - 12 and 14 - 22 is in condition for allowance. Favorable action consistent with the above is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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